

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAIRO 09873 221207Z

53

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 H-02 ISO-00 NEA-10 /013 W

----- 102745

R 220826Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5439

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

UNCLAS CAIRO 9873

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, EG

SUBJ: W/W: MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH EFRAM ABOU-CHEDID

REF: CAIRO 9731, STATE 177791

1. INTEREST SENATOR TAFT. EMBASSY CONTACTED MRS. ABOU-CHEDID AFTER-NOON JULY 19 AND LEARNED THAT SHE AND HUSBAND HAD MADE INDEPENDENT DECISION TO DEPART EGYPT FOR CYPRUS ASAP. SHE STATED THEY HAD PURSUED SUGGESTIONS OUTLINED REF A WITH NO RESULTS. SHE INDICATED THEY FELT EVEN IF EMBASSY COULD AID THEM IN GETTING EFFECTS OUT OF CUSTOMS THEY MAY HAVE HAD ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TABNG THESE EFFECTS WITH THEM ON DEPARTURE. THEY DECIDED NOT TO RECONTACT EMBASSY ABOUT SITUATION, BUT RATHER CHOSE TO SHIP SUBJECT GOODS TO CYPRUS. UN-ACCOMPANIED AIR FREIGHT WAS SENT JULY 18 TO THAT DESTINATION.

2. MRS. ABOU-CHEDID FURTHER STATED SHE WAS DEPARTING FOR CYPRUS ON JULY 20 VIA CYPRUS AIR (BA) AT 4.30 P.M. MRS. ABOU CHEDID ALSO TO LD CONSOFF THAT SHE AND HER HUSBAND HAD BEEN WARNED BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS THAT THEY WOULD BE SEARCHED ON DEPARTURE FORM EGYPT AND ADDITIONAL EFFECTS MIGHT BE CONFISCATED. FYI. MR. ABOU-CHEDID'S LUGGAGE WAS SEARCHED UPON ENTRY INTO EGYPT. SOME PERSONAL ITEMS OF CLOTHING WERE CONFISCATED BY CUSTOMS OFFICIAL AND NO RECEIPT GIVEN. END FYI. CONSOFF RESPONDED THIS WOULD BE AN EXCEPTIONAL PROCEDURE, BUT OFFERED TO SEND EMBASSY EXPEDITER TO FACILITATE HER DEPARTURE.

3. SUBJECT DEPARTED CAIRO AT 4.30 P.M. JULY 20, 1976 ACCOMPANIED BY BROTHER-IN-LAW AND OTHER UNIDENTIFIED LEBANESE. EMBASSY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAIRO 09873 221207Z

EXPEDITER MET MRS. ABOU-CHEDID AND ASSISTED WITH BAGGAGE CHECK.

HUSBAND REMAINING FOR ABOUT A WEEK TO SELL POV. NO CUSTOMS OFFICIALS WERE PRESENT AT CHECK-IN OR OTHERWISE INVOLVED WITH HER DEPARTURE. THERE WAS NO SEARCH OF HER PERSONAL EFFECTS OR OF THOSE TRAVELLING WITH HER.

4. FOR NICOSIA: FYI MRS. ABOU-CHEDID IS U.S. CITIZEN MARRIED TO LEBANESE WHO IS U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT. UPON FIRST VISIT TO EMBASSY SHE INDICATED SHE AND HER HUSBAND CAME TO EGYPT TO ASSIST HIS FAMILY IN RE-SETTLING HERE SINCE THEIR DEPARTURE FROM BEIRUT. ACCORDING TO MRS. ABOU-CHEDID, WHOLE FAMILY NOW PLANS TO RE-LOCATE IN CYPRUS. FAMILY APPARENTLY WILL TO DO AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM. COUSTOMS DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED HERE, BY THEIR OWN ACCOUNT, WERE DUE TO MR. ABOU-CHEDID'S LEBANESE NATIONALITY, AND HE APPARENTLY COULD NOT RESOLVE CUSTOM CLEARANCE PROBLEMS FOR UNACCOMPANIED BAGGAGE. THIS SITUATION, COMPOUNDED BY WHAT THEY TERMED "HARRASSMENT" BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS SEEMS EXTRA-ORDINARY TO EMBASSY, THOUGH NUMBERS OF LEBANESE RE-SETTLING HERE COULD INFLUENCE ATTITUDE OF CUSTOMS OFFICIALS. IT IS DIFFICULT TO SAY WHETHER DIFFICULTIES WERE PROMPTED BY MR. ABOU-CHEDID'S ATTITUDE TOWARD CUSTOMS OFFICIALS' DEMANDS OR BY INDIVIDUAL OFFICIAL'S HOPE TO PROFIT FROM A LARGE "PAY-OFF" TO CLEAR GOODS AS EMBOFFS NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH EGYPTAN CUSTOMS ON THIS MATTER. END FYI.

6. EMBASSY REPEATING REFTELS FOR YOUR INFO IN EVENT MRS. ABOU-CHEDID SHOULD CONTACT YOU.
EILTS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO09873
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760282-0341
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760734/aaaabdaw.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CAIRO 9731, 76 STATE 177791
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W: MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH EFRAM ABOU-CHEDID
TAGS: CASC, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006